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- 3. (original) The film of claim 1 comprising two opposing surfaces, each surface comprising microfibers.
- 4. (original) The film of claim 3 wherein one surface is hydrophobic.
- 5. (original) The film of claim 1 comprising two opposing surfaces, one surface comprising microfibers and the other surface not comprising microfibers.
- 6. (currently amended) The film of claim 5 wherein a film layer having the surface not comprising microfibers exhibits a property selected from the group consisting of[:] elasticity, high or low modulus, puncture resistance, tear resistance, breathability, flame retardancy, high temperature resistance, low temperature resistance, and combinations thereof.
- 7. (original) The film of claim 1 comprising a merofiber layer and a non-microfiber layer, the microfiber layer comprising a material that exhibits a property selected from the group consisting of hydrophobicity, hydrophilicity, eleophobicity, eleophobicity, a dielectric property, low coefficient of friction, stain resistance, flame retardance, high strength or modulus, an ability to produce a certain size microfiber, and combinations thereof, and

the non-microfiber layer comprising a material selected from the group consisting of a hydrophobic material, a hydrophilic material, an elastomeric material, a tear resistant material, a puncture resistant material, a high or low temperature resistant material, high strength, high modulus, adhesive properties, and a flame retardant material.

- 8. (original) The film of claim 7 wherein the microfiber layer comprises a polypropylene.
- 9. (original) The film of claim 7 wherein the non-microfiber layer comprises an elastomeric polymer.



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10. (currently amended) The film of claim I wherein the multi-layer film is selected from the group consisting of[:]

a film consisting of two layers and a film consisting of three layers.

- 11. (original) The film of claim 1 wherein the film comprises a non-microfiber layer comprising a material selected from the group consisting of a polypropylene, a polyethylene, a styrene-ethylene/butylene-styrene block copolymer, a styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymer, a polyurethane, a fluoropolymer, poly(butylene), poly(isoprene), a nylon, and an adhesive.
- 12. (original) The film of claim 1 wherein the film comprises two microfiber layers sandwiching a non-microfiber layer.
- 13. (original) The film of claim 12 wherein the non-microfiber layer is elastomeric.
- 14. (original) The film of claim 12 wherein the non-microfiber layer comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a polypropylene, a polyethylene, a styrene-ethylene/butylene-styrene block copolymer, a styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymer, a polyurethane, a fluoropolymer, poly(butylene), poly(isoprene), a nylon, and an adhesive.
- 15. (original) The film of claim 12 wherein a microfiber layer is a semicrystalline polymer selected from the group consisting of high and low density polyethylene, polypropylene, polyoxymethylene, poly(vinylidine fluoride), poly(methyl pentene), poly(ethylene-chlorotrifluoroethylene), poly(vinyl fluoride), poly(ethylene oxide), poly(ethylene terephthalate), polyethylene naphthalate, poly(butylene terephthalate), poly(lactic acid), nylon 6 12, nylon 6, nylon 66, polybutene, a thermotropic liquid crystal polymer, a blend of one or more of these polymers, or a copolymer of one or more the named monomers.
- 16. (canceled)
- 17. (original) The film of claim 1 wherein the film comprises from about 2 to about 5 layers.

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- 18. (original) The film of claim 1 wherein the film comprises from about 2 to about 5 layers, and the total film thickness prior to fibrillation is in the range from about 25 to about 10,160 microns.
- 19. (original) The film of claim 1 consisting of a microfiber layer and a non-microfiber layer.
- 20. (original) The film of claim 1 consisting of 2 microfiber layers.
- 21. (original) The film of claim 1 consisting of 3 layers: one non-microfiber layer sandwiched by two microfiber layers.
- 22. (original) The film of claim 1 wherein the microfibers have an average effective diameter of less than 20 microns and a transverse aspect ratio of from 1.5:1 to 20:1.
- 23. (original) The film of claim 1 wherein the microfibers have an average effective diameter of less than 5 microns.
- 24. (original) The film of claim 1 wherein the microfibers have an average cross-sectional area of 0.7 μ^2 to 2.1 μ^2 .
- 25. (currently amended) A <u>co-extruded</u> multi-layer microfiber article comprising [at least one] two <u>co-extruded</u> microfiber layers and a <u>co-extruded</u> non-microfiber layer comprising a material selected from the group consisting of a polypropylene, a polyethylene, a styrene-ethylene-styrene block copolymer, a styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymer, a polyurethane, a fluoropolymer, poly(butylene), poly(isoprene), a nylon, and an adhesive.
- 26. (original) The article of claim 25 wherein the non-microfiber layer is elastomeric.

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- 27. (currently amended) The article of claim 25 wherein the non-microfiber layer exhibits a property selected from the group consisting of[:] elasticity, high or low modulus, puncture resistance, breathability, flame retardancy, temperature resistance, and combinations thereof.
- 28. (currently amended) The film of claim 25 wherein [the]a microfiber layer comprises polypropylene.
- 29. (currently original) A co-extruded, <u>uni-axially</u> oriented, multi-layer film comprising [one or more]a co-extruded microfiber-forming layer[s].
- 30. (original) The film of claim 29 consisting of two layers.
- 31. (original) The film of claim 29 consisting of two microfiber-forming layers.
- 32. (original) The film of claim 29 consisting of three layers.
- 33. (original) The film of claim 29 comprising a non-microfiber-forming layer sandwiched between two microfiber-forming layers.
- 34. (original) The film of claim 33 wherein one microfiber layer can be microfibrillated to a hydropholic surface, and one microfiber layer can be microfibrillated to a hydrophobic surface.
- 35. (currently amended) A [two-layer] co-extruded <u>oriented</u> film comprising [one or two]a microfiber-forming layer[s] and a non-microfiber-forming elastomeric layer.

Support for claim 35 can be found in the specification as originally filed, e.g., at page 22, lines 18-22; at figure 1a and related text.

36. (original) A multi-layer microfiber article comprising a first microfiber layer at a surface of the article, and second microfiber layer adjacent to the first microfiber-layer, wherein areas of the



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surface are microfibrillated to form microfibers of only the first layer, and areas of the surface are microfibrillated through the first layer to form microfibers of the second layer.

37. (original) The multi-layer microfiber article of claim 36 wherein a surface of the article includes a pattern comprising a first area of microfibers of one layer of the article, and a second area of microfibers of the second layer.

38. (currently amended) The article of claim 37 wherein an area of microfibers has a property selected from the group consisting of[:] hydrophobicity, hydrophilicity, oleophilicity, and oleophobicity.

39-44. (canceled).

45. (new) A multi-layer film comprising we microfiber layers, wherein one microfiber layer is hydrophilic and one microfiber layer is hydrophobic.

Support for claim 45 can be found in the original specification, e.g., at original claim 4.

- 46. (new) A multi-layer film comprising two microfiber layers sandwiching a non-microfiber layer:
- 47. (new) The film of claim 46 wherein the non-microfiber layer is elastomeric.
- 48. (new) The film of claim 46 comprising three layers.
- 49. (new) The film of claim 46 comprising three coextruded layers.

Support for claims 46-49 can be found in the original specification, e.g., at original claim 12; at page 20, lines 20-26 of the specification; page 24, lines 8-32; and at figure 3 and related text.